



MARYLAND Department of Health

Public Health Preparedness and Situational Awareness Report: #2019:02

Reporting for the week ending 01/12/19 (MMWR Week #02)

January 18, 2019

CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS

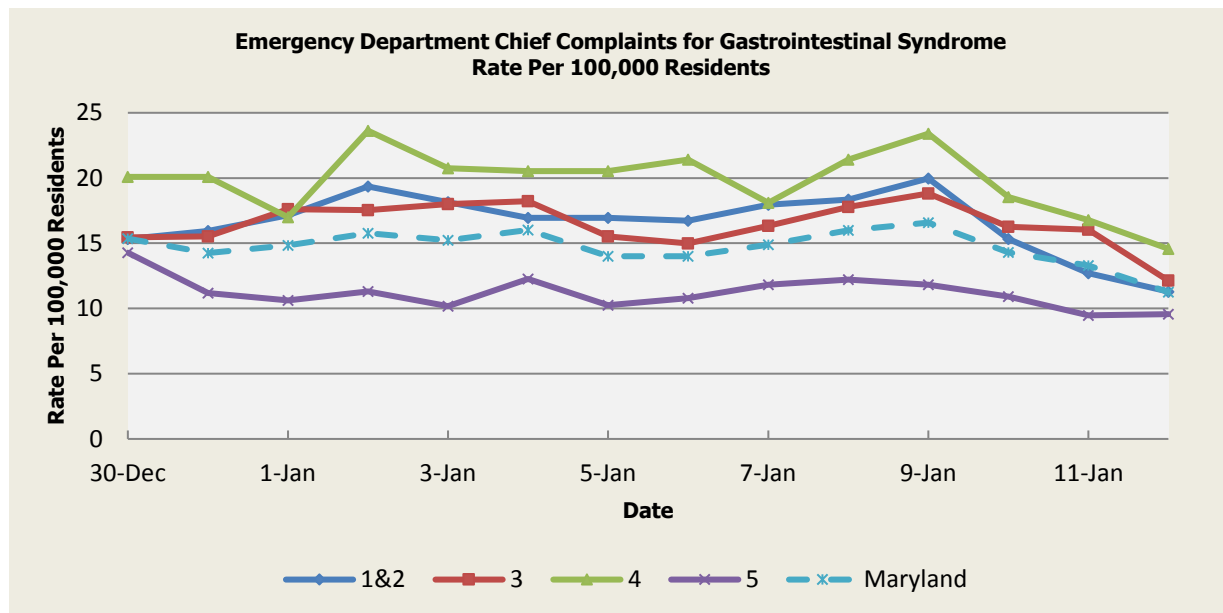
National:	No Active Alerts
Maryland:	Normal (MEMA status)

SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics): Graphical representation is provided for all syndromes (excluding the “Other” category; see Appendix 1) by Health and Medical Regions (See Appendix 2). Emergency department chief complaint data is presented as rates per 100,000 residents using data from the 2010 census. Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Baltimore, MD: Maryland Department of Health; 2019.

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Gastrointestinal Syndrome



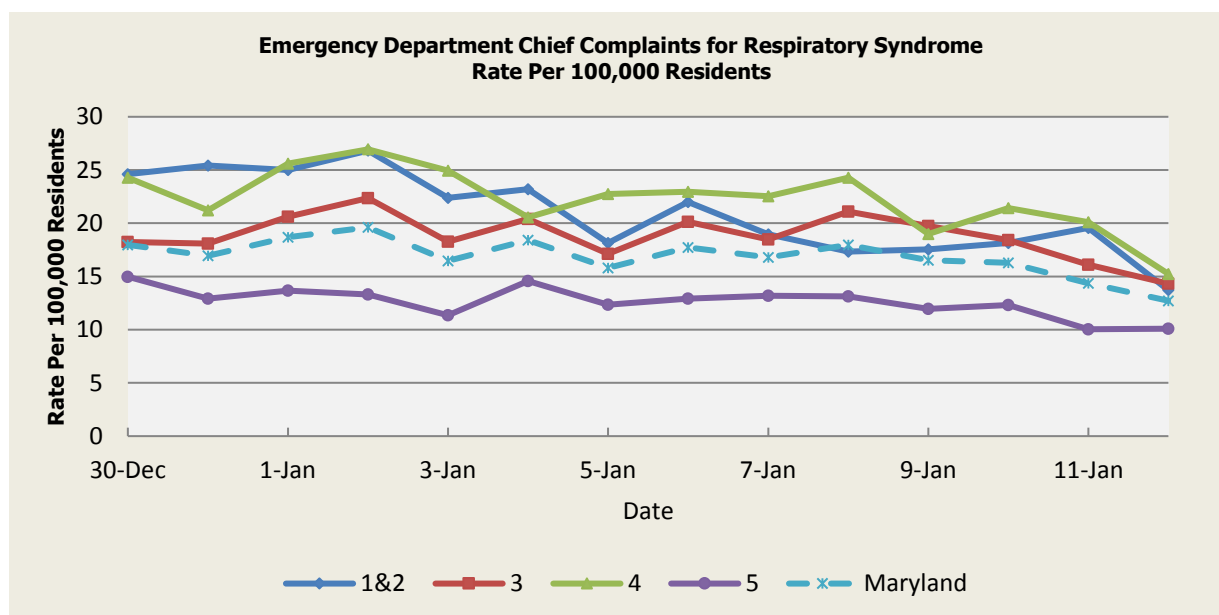
There were three (3) Gastrointestinal Syndrome outbreaks reported this week: one (1) outbreak of Gastroenteritis in a Hospital (Region 3); two (2) outbreaks of Gastroenteritis in Assisted Living Facilities (Regions 1&2,4); one (1) outbreak of Gastroenteritis/Foodborne associated with a Restaurant (Region 5).

Gastrointestinal Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	13.09	15.04	15.76	10.16	13.06
Median Rate*	12.91	14.80	15.24	10.04	12.93

** Per 100,000 Residents*

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Respiratory Syndrome



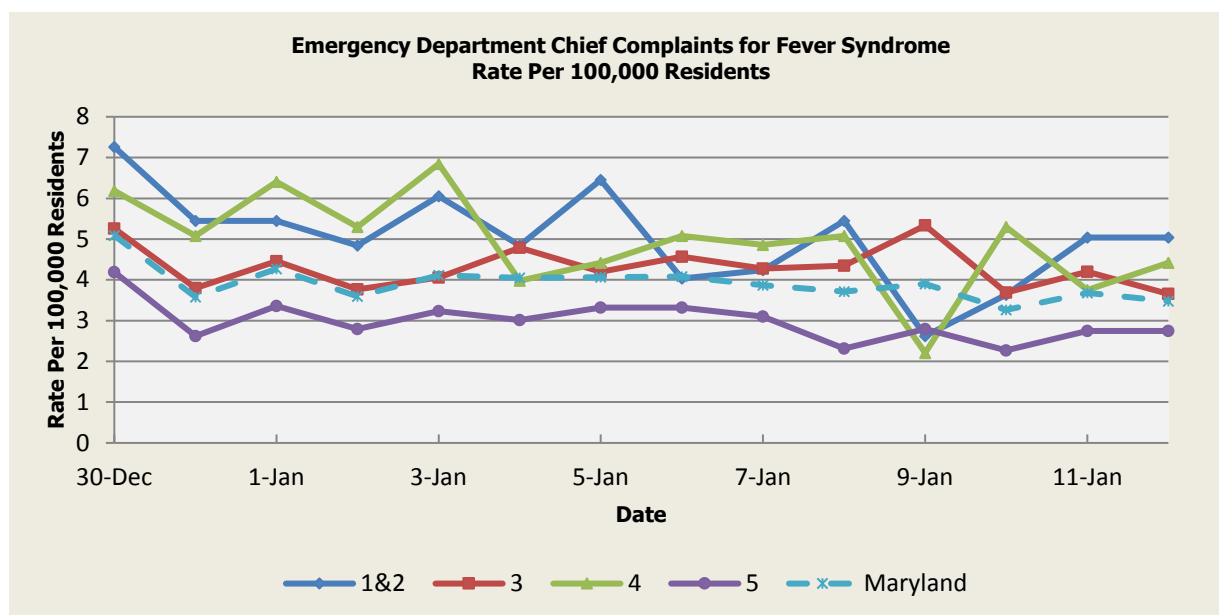
There were two (2) Respiratory Syndrome outbreaks reported this week: two (2) outbreaks of Influenza in Nursing Homes (Regions 1&2,3).

Respiratory Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	12.49	14.62	14.88	9.91	12.66
Median Rate*	12.10	14.07	14.13	9.52	12.16

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Fever Syndrome



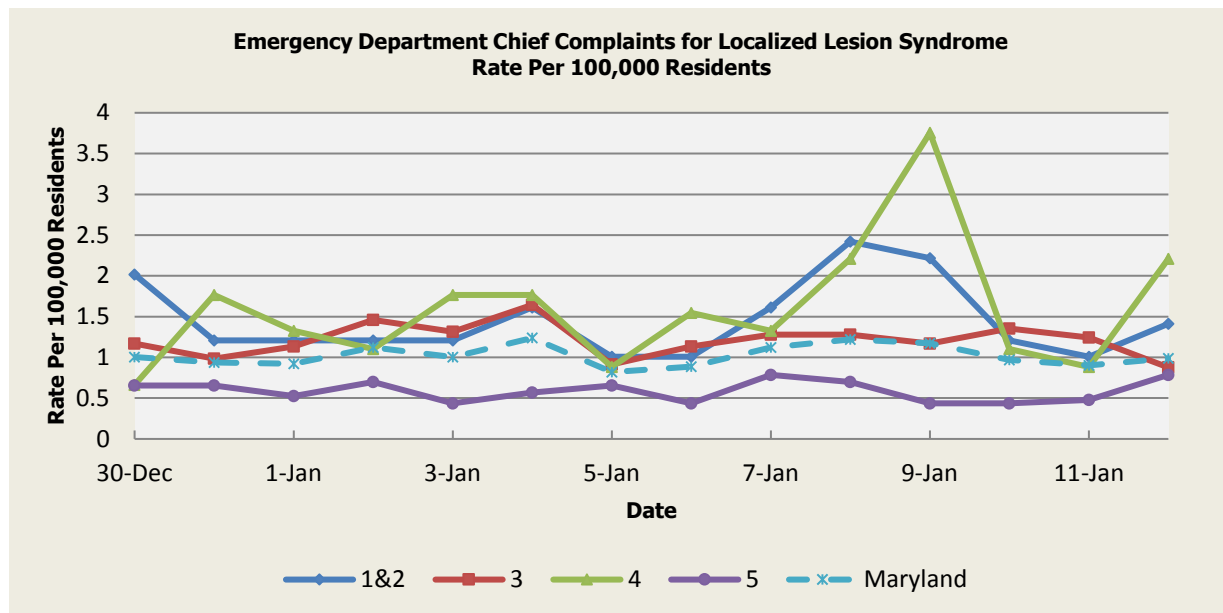
There were no Fever Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Fever Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.02	3.87	4.03	3.02	3.49
Median Rate*	2.82	3.76	3.97	2.92	3.36

*Per 100,000 Residents

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Localized Lesion Syndrome



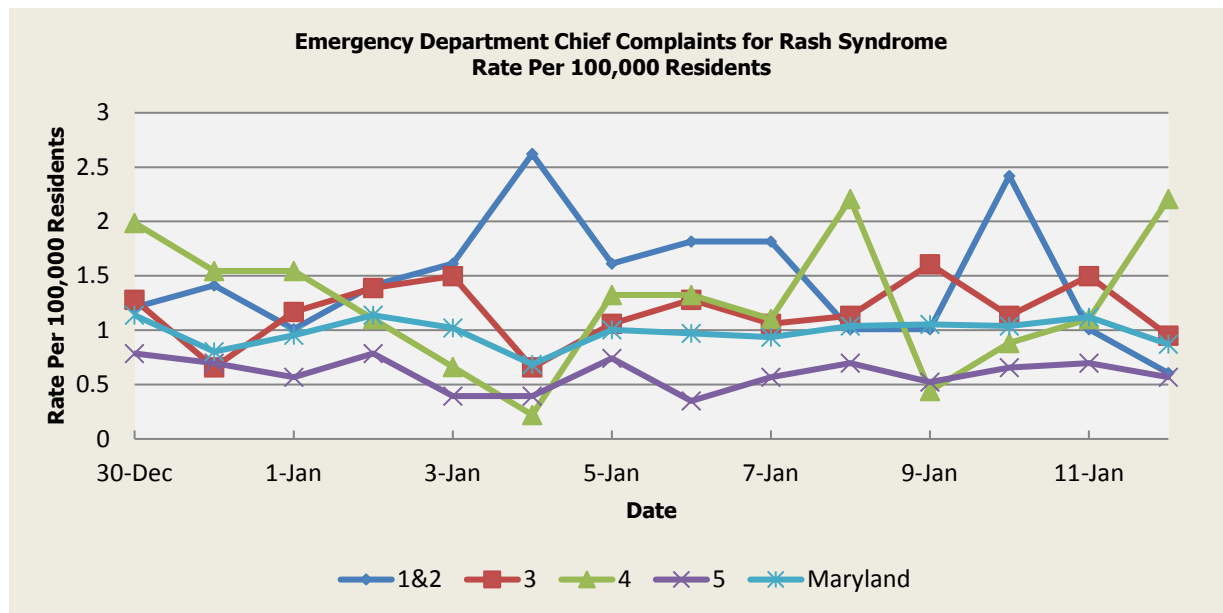
There were no Localized Lesion Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Localized Lesion Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.09	1.82	2.04	0.92	1.43
Median Rate*	1.01	1.75	1.99	0.87	1.37

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Rash Syndrome



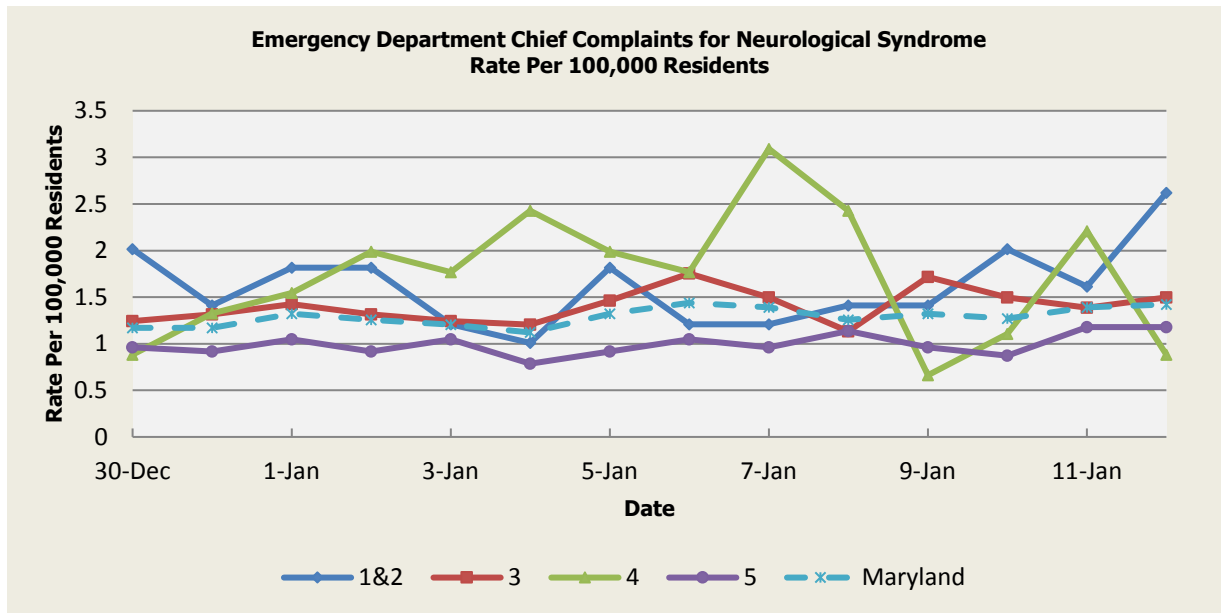
There were no Rash Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Rash Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.22	1.69	1.77	0.99	1.39
Median Rate*	1.21	1.61	1.77	0.96	1.34

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Neurological Syndrome



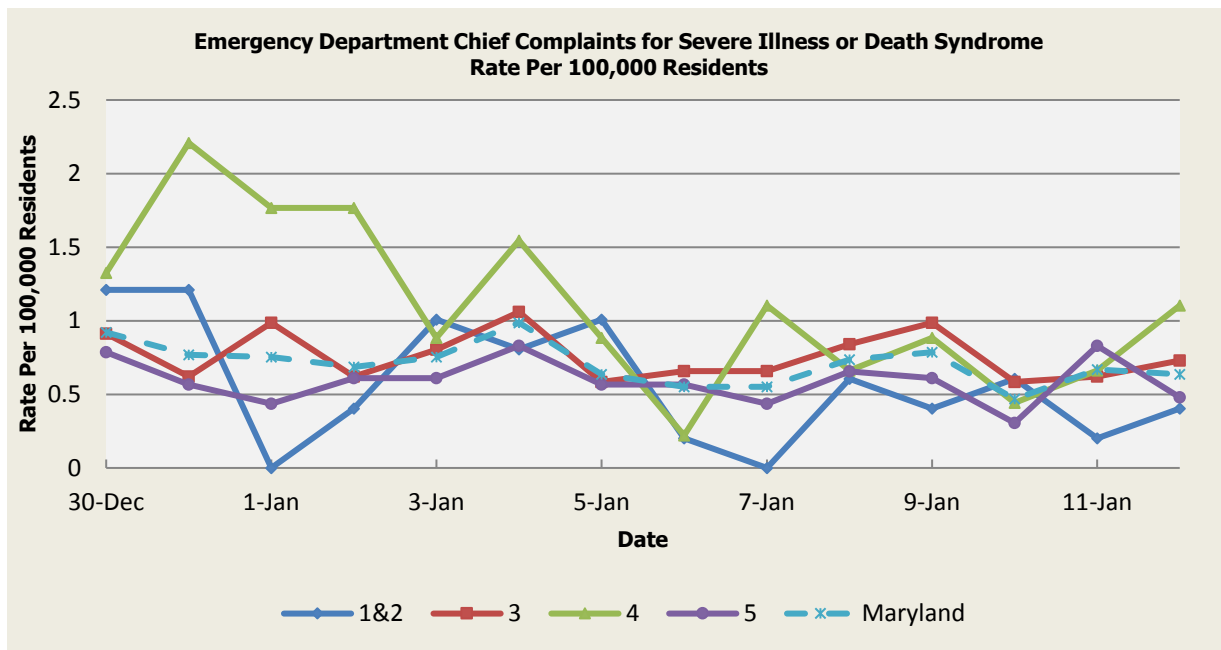
There were no Neurological Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Neurological Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.75	0.91	0.82	0.57	0.76
Median Rate*	0.60	0.80	0.66	0.52	0.67

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Severe Illness or Death Syndrome



There were no Severe Illness or Death Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

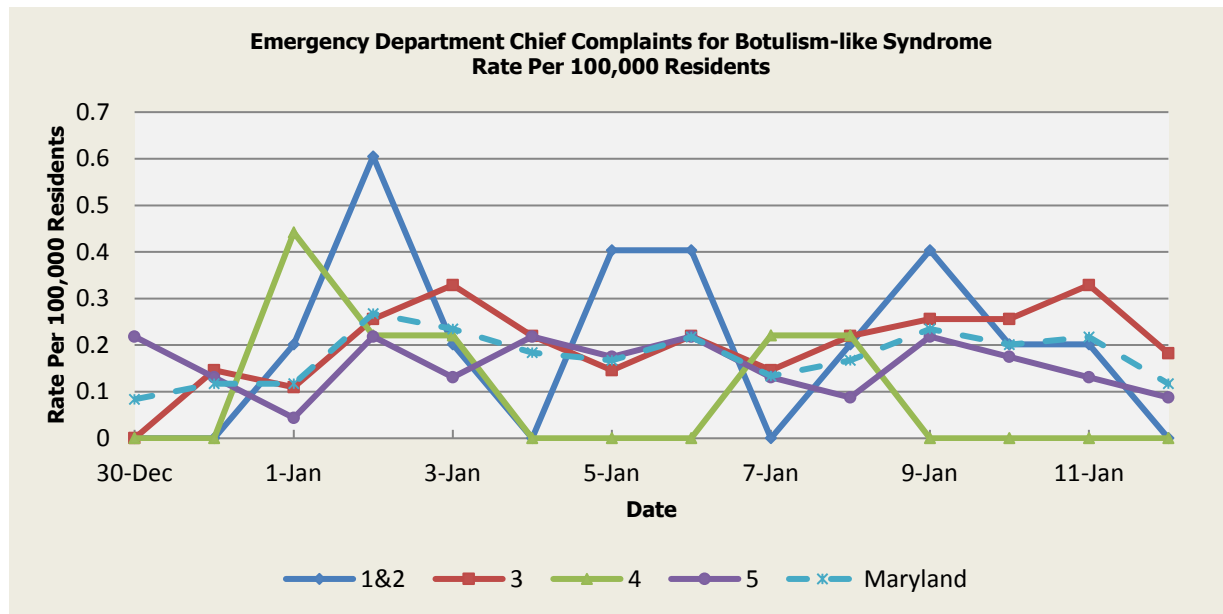
Severe Illness or Death Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.66	0.91	0.83	0.50	0.72
Median Rate*	0.60	0.88	0.66	0.48	0.69

* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMES RELATED TO CATEGORY A AGENTS

Botulism-like Syndrome



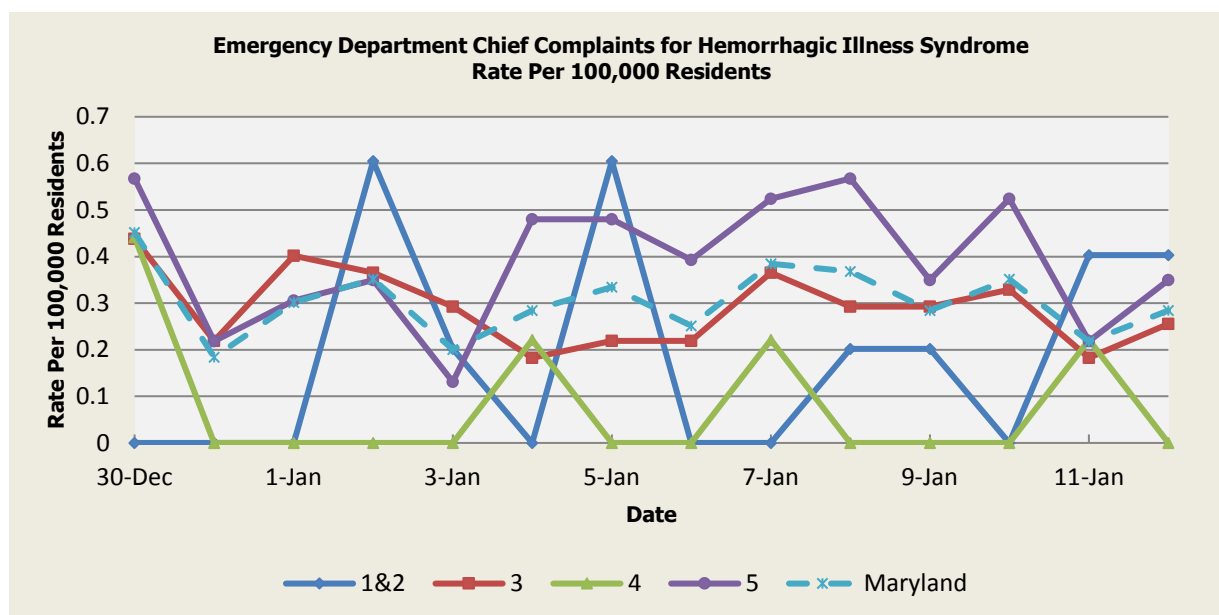
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Botulism-like Syndrome on 12/30 (Region 5), 1/1 (Regions 1&2,4), 1/2 (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), 1/3 (Regions 1&2,3,4), 1/4 (Region 5), 1/5 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/6 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/7 (Region 4), 1/8 (Regions 1&2,4), 1/9 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 1/10 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 1/11 (Regions 1&2,3). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Botulism-like Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.07	0.11	0.05	0.07	0.09
Median Rate*	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.04	0.07

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome



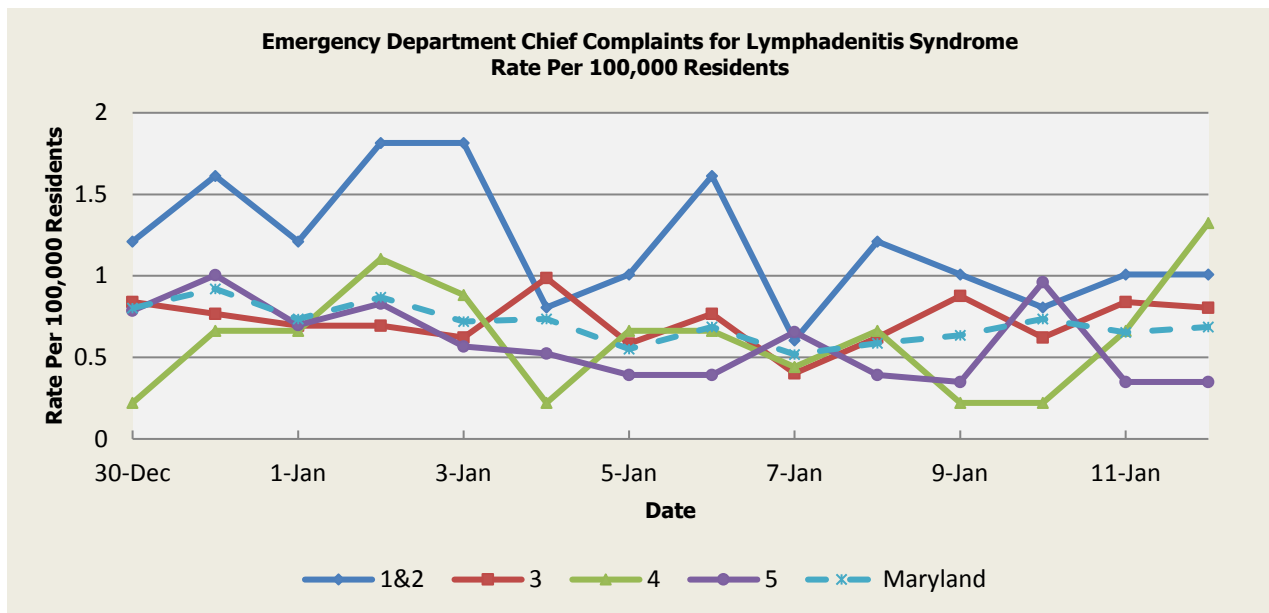
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome on 12/30 (Regions 3,4,5), 1/1 (Regions 3,5), 1/2 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 1/3 (Regions 1&2), 1/4 (Regions 4,5), 1/5 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/6 (Region 5), 1/7 (Regions 3,4,5), 1/8 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/9 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/10 (Regions 3,5), 1/11 (Regions 1&2,4), 1/12 (Regions 1&2,5). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.04	0.15	0.03	0.12	0.12
Median Rate*	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.04	0.07

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Lymphadenitis Syndrome



There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Lymphadenitis Syndrome on 12/30 (Regions 1&2,5), 12/31 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/1 (Regions 1&2), 1/ 2 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 1/3 (Regions 1&2,4), 1/ 4 (Regions 1&2), 1/5 (Regions 1&2), 1/6 (Regions 1&2), 1/8 (Regions 1&2), 1/9 (Regions 1&2), 1/10 (Regions 1&2,5), 1/11 (Regions 1&2), 1/12 (Regions 1&2,4). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Lymphadenitis Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.34	0.57	0.39	0.36	0.46
Median Rate*	0.20	0.47	0.44	0.31	0.40

* Per 100,000 Residents

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MARYLAND REPORTABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

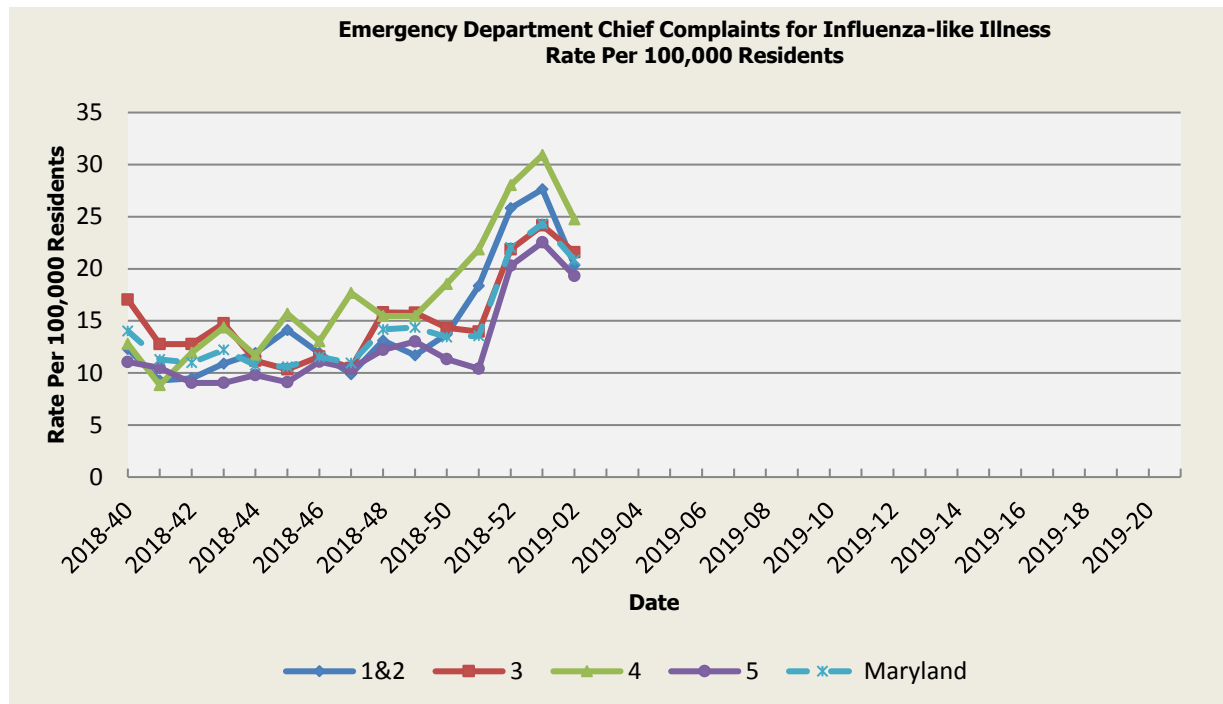
Reportable disease data from the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) that feeds into ESSENCE is currently being validated. We will include these data in future reports once the validation process is complete.

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SYNDROMIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

Seasonal Influenza reporting occurs from MMWR Week 40 through MMWR Week 20 (October 2018 through May 2019). Seasonal Influenza activity for Week 02 was: Moderate Intensity.

Influenza-like Illness

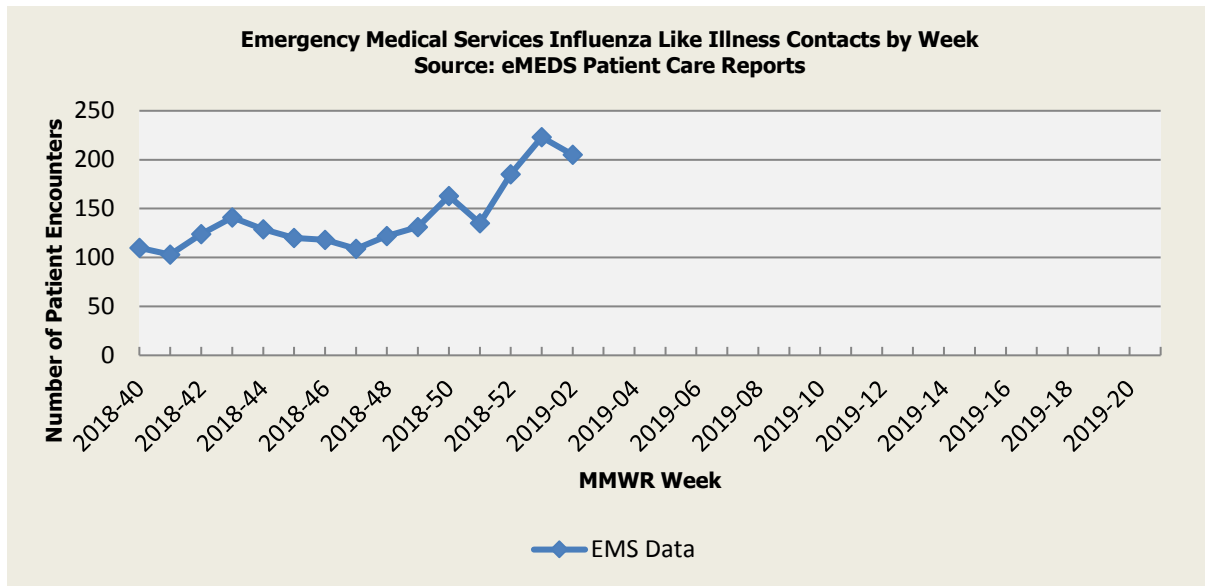


Influenza-like Illness Baseline Data Week 1 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	12.13	16.27	14.93	14.07	14.98
Median Rate*	7.66	9.65	9.05	8.45	8.99

* Per 100,000 Residents

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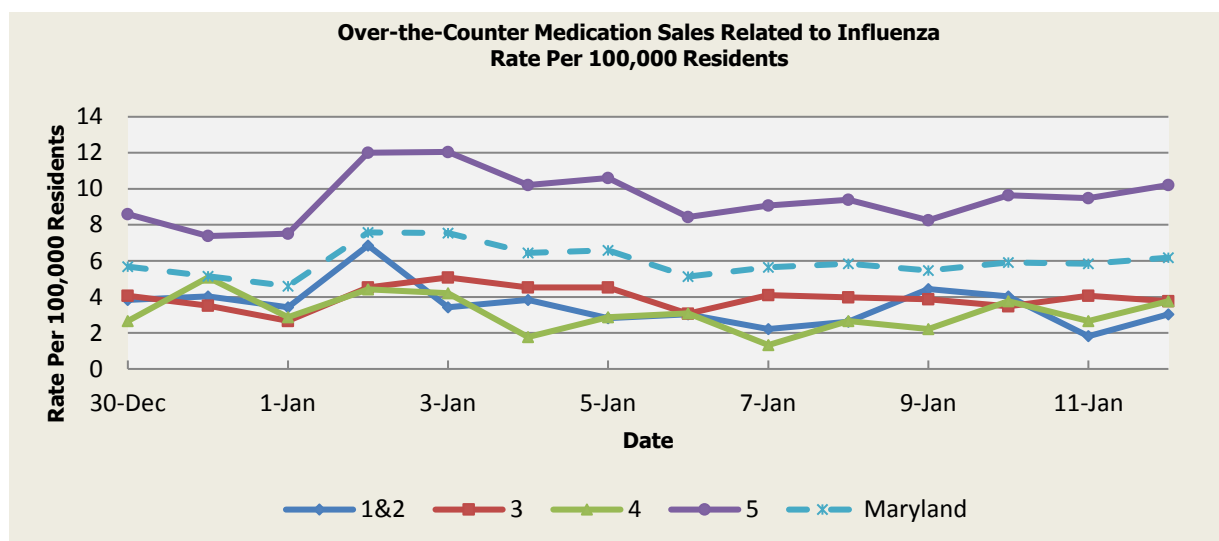
Influenza-like Illness Contacts by Week



Disclaimer on eMEDS flu related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has selected “flu like illness” as a primary or secondary impression of a patient’s illness. This impression is solely based on the signs and symptoms seen by the provider, not on any diagnostic tests. Since these numbers do not include all primary or secondary impressions that may be seen with influenza the actual numbers may be low. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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Over-the-Counter Influenza-Related Medication Sales



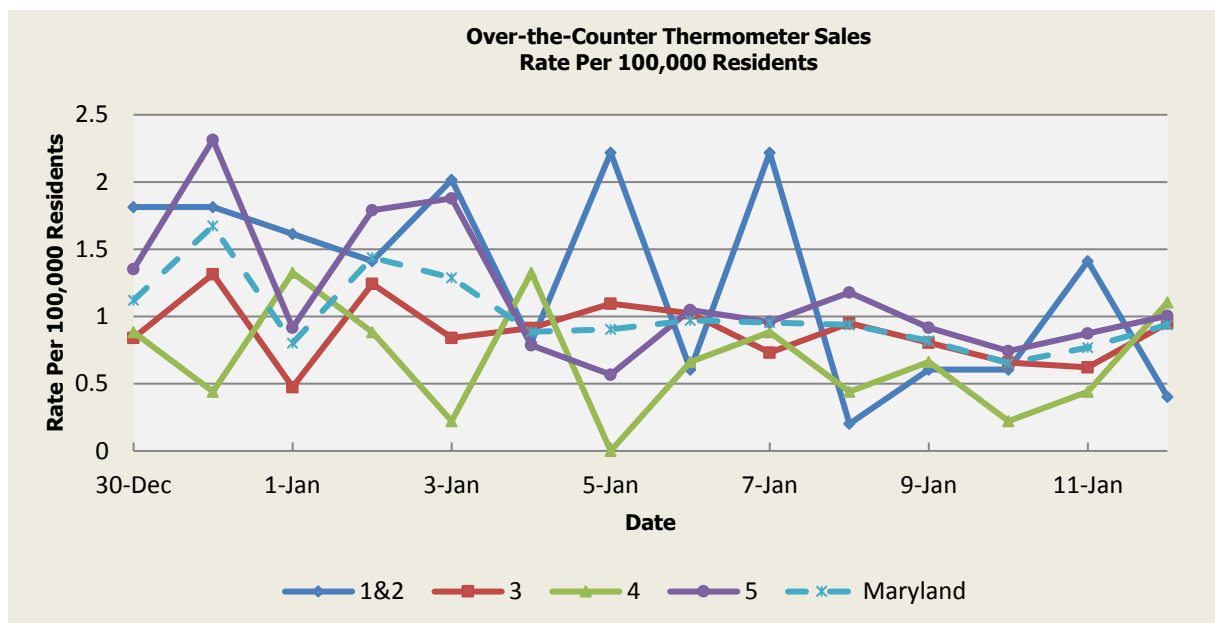
There was not an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC thermometer sales during this reporting period.

OTC Medication Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.62	4.68	2.75	8.10	5.76
Median Rate*	3.02	3.98	2.43	7.47	5.10

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Over-the-Counter Thermometer Sales



There was not an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC thermometer sales during this reporting period.

Thermometer Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.12	2.99	2.35	3.96	3.32
Median Rate*	2.82	2.81	2.21	3.80	3.16

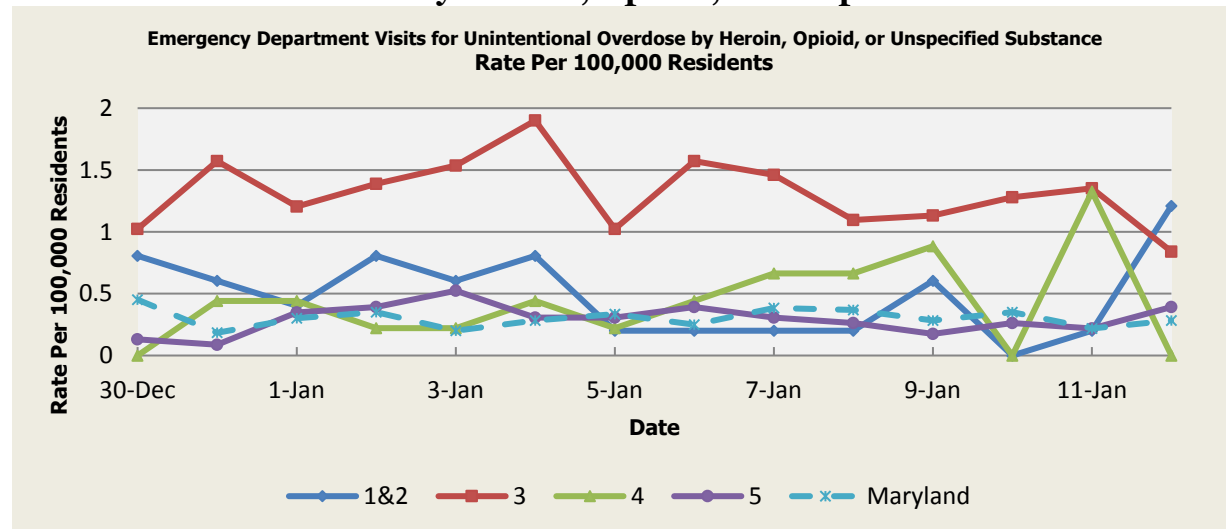
* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMIC OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE

The purpose of this section is to characterize non-fatal ED visit trends for acute unintentional overdose by Heroin, Opioid or Unspecified substance among Maryland residents captured by ESSENCE data, including chief complaint and discharge diagnosis. ED visits that are identified as unintentional overdose by Heroin, Opioid or Unspecified substance include those with medical and non-medical use of a prescription Opioid or where the substance is not specified, given evidence that most fatal overdoses are Opioid-related.

Unintentional Overdose by Heroin, Opioid, or Unspecified Substance



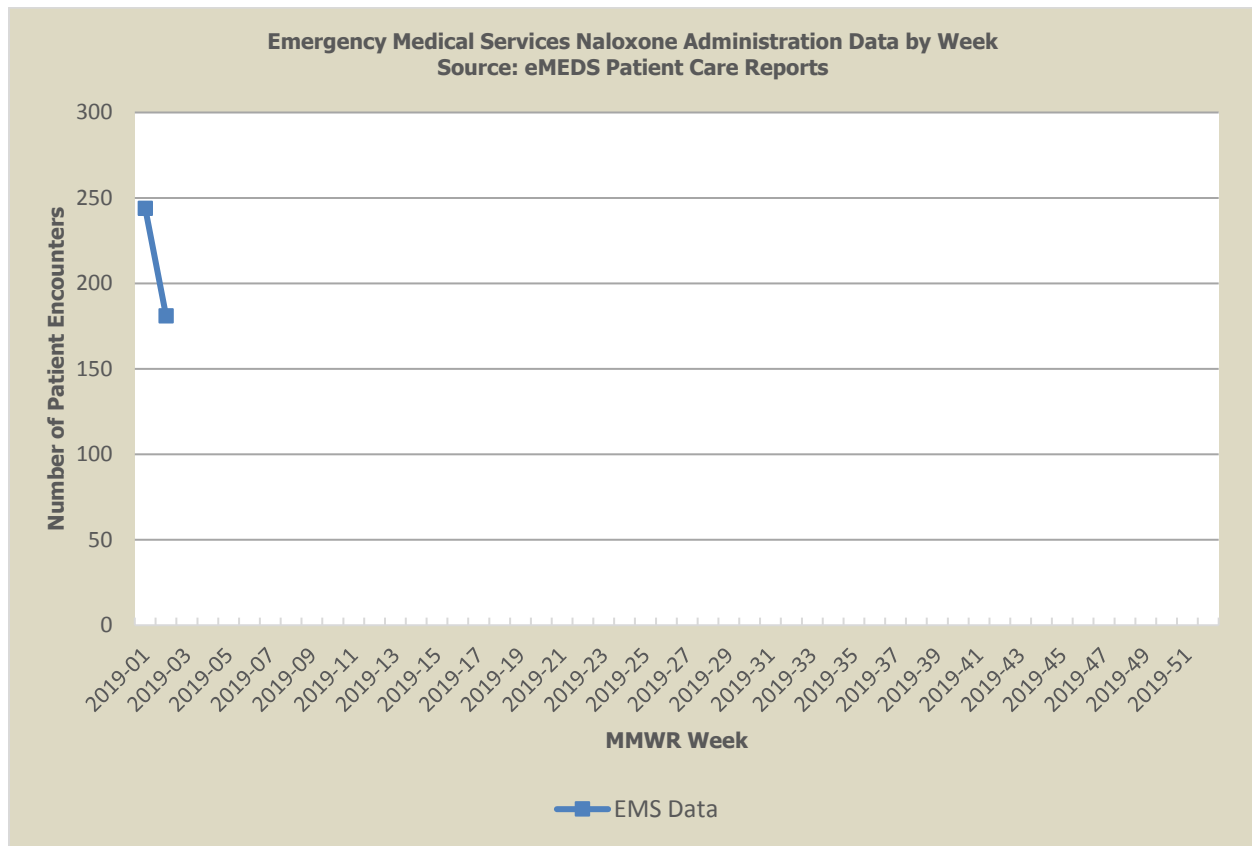
Disclaimer on ESSENCE Overdose related data: ESSENCE chief complaint and discharge diagnosis query for overdose-related illness includes but is not limited to the following terms: heroin, opioid, speedball, dope, fentanyl, naloxone, narcane, and overdose.

Non-fatal Overdose ED Visit Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.26	0.34	0.30	0.12	0.25
Median Rate*	1.01	1.32	1.10	0.48	0.99

* Per 100,000 Residents

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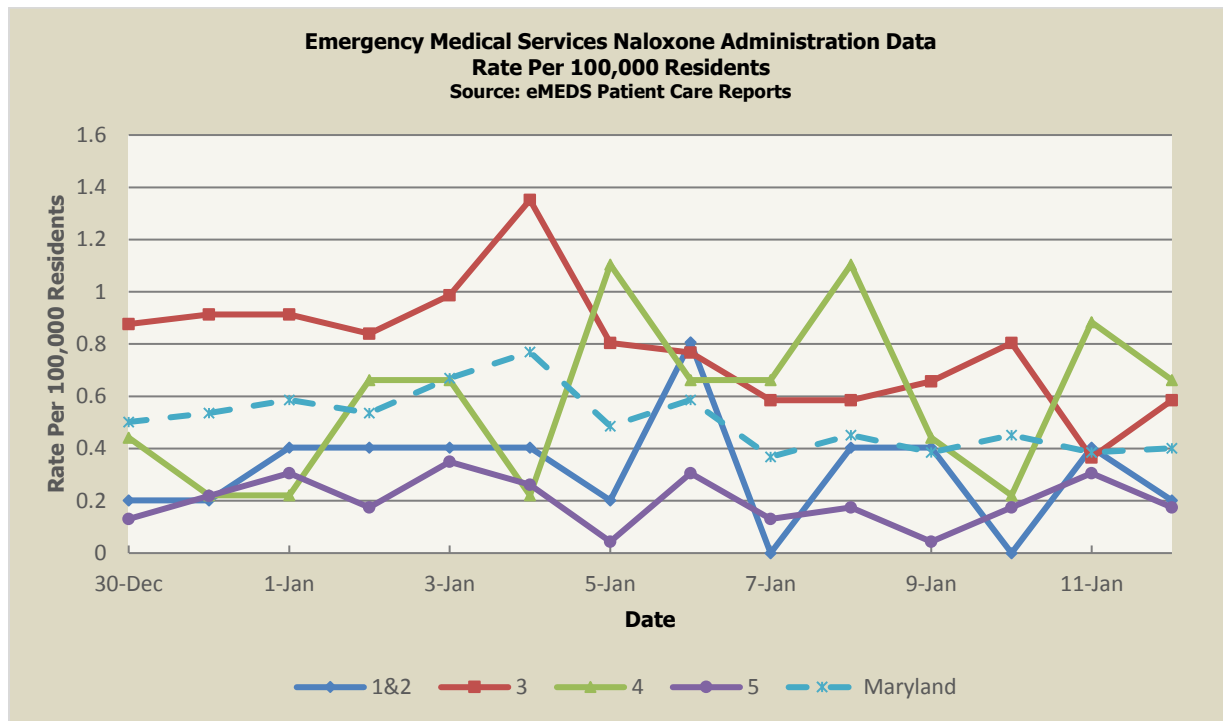
Naloxone Administration Data by Week



Disclaimer on eMEDS naloxone administration related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has documented that they administered naloxone. The administration of naloxone is based on the patient's signs and symptoms and not on any diagnostic tests. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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Naloxone Administration Data



Disclaimer on eMEDS Naloxone administration related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has documented that they administered naloxone. The administration of naloxone is based on the patient's signs and symptoms and not on any diagnostic tests. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

EMS Naloxone Administration Data Baseline Data January 1, 2017 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.28	0.36	0.32	0.13	0.26
Median Rate*	1.01	1.32	1.10	0.48	0.99

* Per 100,000 Residents

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PANDEMIC INFLUENZA UPDATE / AVIAN INFLUENZA-RELATED REPORTS

WHO update: The current WHO phase of pandemic alert for avian influenza is ALERT. Currently, the avian influenza H5N1 virus continues to circulate in poultry in some countries, especially in Asia and northeast Africa. This virus continues to cause sporadic human infections with some instances of limited human-to-human transmission among very close contacts. There has been no sustained human-to-human or community-level transmission identified thus far.

Influenza A (H7N9) is one of a subgroup of influenza viruses that normally circulate among birds. Until recently, this virus had not been seen in people. However, human infections have now been detected. Presently, there is limited information about the scope of the disease the virus causes and about the source of exposure. The disease is of concern because most patients have been severely ill. There is no indication thus far that it can be transmitted between people, but both animal-to-human and human-to-human routes of transmission are being actively investigated.

Alert phase: This is the phase when influenza caused by a new subtype has been identified in humans. Increased vigilance and careful risk assessment, at local, national, and global levels are characteristic of this phase. If the risk assessments indicate that the new virus is not developing into a pandemic strain, a de-escalation of activities towards those in the interpandemic phase may occur. As of January 17, 2019, the WHO-confirmed global total (2003-2018) of human cases of H5N1 avian influenza virus infection stands at 860, of which 454 have been fatal. Thus, the case fatality rate for human H5N1 is approximately 53%.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

There were no relevant avian influenza reports this week.

HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZA

There were no relevant avian influenza reports this week.

NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

VIM-PRODUCING PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA (USA,MEXICO), 09 Jan 2019, Recently, some US residents returning from Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico were diagnosed with infections caused by an antibiotic-resistant form of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bacteria. All of the travelers with this particular infection had an invasive medical procedure performed in Tijuana. Most (but not all) of them had weight-loss surgery. About half of those infected had their surgery done at the Grand View Hospital. Based on information provided by the CDC, the Mexican government has closed the Grand View Hospital until further notice. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6256545>

INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

YELLOW FEVER (NIGERIA), 16 Jan 2019, Kwara Commissioner for Health Alhaji Usman Rifun-Kolo disclosed that a yellow fever case has been confirmed in Agunji in Ifelodun Local Government Area of Kwara. According to him, the patient is a farmer from Kebbi State, resident in Agunji District. He noted that the state Ministry of Health is already in touch with traditional leaders to brief them on the outbreak of the disease. Read More:

<http://www.promedmail.org/post/6262306>

POLIOMYELITIS (NIGERIA), 15 Jan 2019, The government has confirmed an outbreak of circulating vaccine derived polio virus (cDVPV), which claimed the life of 2-year-old girl. Speaking on 15 Jan 2019, during a news briefing, the Kwara Commissioner for Health, Alhaji Usman Rifun-Kolo, disclosed that an outbreak of circulating cDVPV in a Fulani Camp in Kiiparu District of Okuta Ward in Baruten LGA has been confirmed. Read More:

<http://www.promedmail.org/post/6260612>

AUSTRALIAN BAT LYSSAVIRUS (NEW SOUTH WALES), 15 Jan 2019, A warning has been issued following a surge in people being bitten and scratched by flying foxes infected with a virus like rabies. A spike in the number of incidents in the Newcastle area has led New South Wales health experts to issue a bat attack alert. The extremely hot weather seen across Australia this is week is making the bats irritated and aggressive, the ABC reported. "The 7 [cases] that we have had in the last 2 weeks is certainly higher than we've seen in comparative periods." Dr. Durrheim is advising people in the region to avoid all contact with the animals, and to assume all bats carry the rabies-like virus Australian bat lyssavirus. Read More:

<http://www.promedmail.org/post/6259583>

ENTEROBACTER HUAXIENSIS AND CHUANDAENSIS (CHINA), 15 Jan 2019, Researchers have discovered new species of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the blood of 2 patients in China, according to a recent study. The study showed that the patients were carrying unidentified species of *_Enterobacter huaxiensis_* and *_Enterobacter chuandaensis_* that did not respond to penicillin or the cephalosporin group of antibiotics. Read More:

<http://www.promedmail.org/post/6258926>

POLIOMYELITIS (PAKISTAN), 13 Jan 2019, Another polio case has been reported from Bajaur district as the number of polio cases has risen to 6 from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC), Islamabad notified the polio case from Bajaur district of the tribal districts. The National Institute of Health isolated wild polio virus from the stool sample of a 30-month-old child from the village of Sheikhan, UC Tali, Tehsil Salarzai, Bajaur District. Read More: <http://www.promedmail.org/post/6244044>

OTHER RESOURCES AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

More information concerning Public Health and Emergency Preparedness can be found at the Office of Preparedness and Response website: <http://preparedness.health.maryland.gov/> or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MarylandOPR.

More data and information on influenza can be found on the MDH website:
<http://phpa.health.maryland.gov/influenza/fluwatch/Pages/Home.aspx>

Please participate in the Maryland Resident Influenza Tracking System (MRITS):
<http://flusurvey.health.maryland.gov>

NOTE: This weekly review is a compilation of data from various surveillance systems, interpreted with a focus on a potential BT event. It is not meant to be inclusive of all epidemiology data available, nor is it meant to imply that every activity reported is a definitive BT event. International reports of outbreaks due to organisms on the CDC Critical Biological Agent list will also be reported. While not "secure", please handle this information in a professional manner. Please feel free to distribute within your organization, as you feel appropriate, to other professional staff involved in emergency preparedness and infection control.

For questions about the content of this review or if you have received this and do not wish to receive these weekly notices, please e-mail us. If you have information that is pertinent to this notification process, please send it to us to be included in the routine report.

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Appendix 1: ESSENCE Syndrome Definitions and Associated Category A Conditions

Syndrome	ESSENCE Definition	Category A Conditions
Botulism-like	(Botulism or (DifficultyFocusing and DifficultySpeaking) or (DifficultySpeaking and DifficultySwallowing) or (DifficultySwallowing and DifficultyFocusing) or DoubleVision or FacialParalysis or GuillainBarre or Ptosis) and not GeneralExclusions	Botulism
Fever	(Chills or (FeverPlus and (Drowsiness or Seizure)) or FeverOnly or SepsisGroup or ViralSyndrome) and not GeneralExclusions	N/A
Gastrointestinal	(AbdominalCramps or AbdominalPainGroup or Diarrhea or FoodPoisoning or Gastroenteritis or GIBleeding or Peritonitis or Vomiting) and not (GeneralExclusions or Gynecological or Obstetric or Reproductive or UrinaryTract)	Anthrax (gastrointestinal)
Hemorrhagic Illness	(FeverOrChills and (AcuteBloodAbnormalitiesGroup or BleedingFromMouth or BleedingGums or GIBleeding or Hematemesis or Hemoptysis or Nosebleed or Petechiae or Purpura)) and not GeneralExclusions	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever
Localized Lesion	(Boils or Bump or Carbuncle or DepressedUlcer or Eschar or Furuncle or InsectBite or SkinAbscess or (SkinSores and not AllOverBody) or SkinUlcer or SpiderBite) and not (GeneralExclusions or Decubitus or Diabetes or StasisUlcer)	Anthrax (cutaneous) Tularemia
Lymphadenitis	(BloodPoisoning or Bubo or CatScratchDisease or SwollenGlands) and not GeneralExclusions	Plague (bubonic)
Neurological	(([Age<75] and AlteredMentalStatus) or (FeverPlus and (Confusion or Drowsiness or Petechiae or StiffNeck)) or Delirium or Encephalitis or Meningitis or UnconsciousGroup) and not GeneralExclusions	N/A
Rash	(ChickenPox or Measles or RashGeneral or Roseola or (Rubella and not Pregnancy) or Shingles or (SkinSores and AllOverBody) or Smallpox) and not GeneralExclusions	Smallpox
Respiratory	(Anthrax or Bronchitis or (ChestPain and [Age<50]) or Cough or Croup or DifficultyBreathing or Hemothorax or Hypoxia or Influenza or Legionnaires or LowerRespiratoryInfection or Pleurisy or Pneumonia or RespiratoryDistress or RespiratoryFailure or RespiratorySyncytialVirus or RibPain or ShortnessOfBreath or Wheezing) and not (GeneralExclusions or Cardiac or (ChestPain and Musculoskeletal) or Hyperventilation or Pneumothorax)	Anthrax (inhalational) Tularemia Plague (pneumonic)
Severe Illness or Death	CardiacArrest or CodeGroup or DeathGroup or (Hypotension and FeverPlus) or RespiratoryArrest or SepsisGroup or Shock	N/A

Appendix 2: Maryland Health and Medical Region Definitions

Health and Medical Region	Counties Reporting to ESSENCE
Regions 1 & 2	Allegany County Frederick County Garrett County Washington County
Region 3	Anne Arundel County Baltimore City Baltimore County Carroll County Harford County Howard County
Region 4	Caroline County Cecil County Dorchester County Kent County Queen Anne's County Somerset County Talbot County Wicomico County Worcester County
Region 5	Calvert County Charles County Montgomery County Prince George's County St. Mary's County

